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NEWS RELEASE

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ANNUAL MANSFIELD CONFERENCE EXAMINES WORLD HUNGER

MISSOULA —

The complex issues of hunger, food security and poverty will be discussed during the 17th annual Mansfield Conference Nov. 19-21 at The University of Montana. "Feeding the Hungry: Food Security and Genetic Technology" will tackle issues such as sustainable food systems and genetically modified foods.

Featured speakers will be Robert Paarlberg, an associate at Harvard University's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs and an expert on international agriculture and environmental policy; Frances Moore Lappe, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology visiting scholar and author of "Diet for a Small Planet," which has sold more than 3 million copies worldwide; and William Harrop, director of the American Academy of Diplomacy and a former ambassador to Israel, Kenya, Zaire, Seychelles and Guinea.

The conference will offer a performance by San Francisco's Lily Cai Chinese Dance Co., a troupe that melds ancient Chinese forms with modern dance. The company offers performances ranging from the spectacular court dances of Chinese dynasties to contemporary works fusing Asian dance with ballet. This is all complemented by dazzling costumes, original music and multimedia designs. The show is sponsored by the Mansfield Center, UM Productions and the School of Fine Arts.

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All conference events are free and open to the public except the Tuesday, Nov. 21, dance performance by Lily Cai, which will charge \$5 a ticket and is free to children under age 15. All proceeds will benefit the Missoula Food Bank and Garden City Harvest. Tickets are available by calling all TIC-IT-E-Z outlets, The Good Food Store and Rockin Rudy's. In addition, a silent auction of artwork by Missoula schoolchildren will benefit the Poverello Center.

The Mansfield Conference is organized annually by UM's Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, which strives to create a clearer understanding of our interdependent world in which three out of every five people are Asian. Other major event sponsors are the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Foundation.

For more information, call (406) 243-2988 or visit the Web site at www.umt.edu/mansfield/.

2000 MANSFIELD CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Sunday, Nov. 19

7:30 p.m. - "The Global Food Fight and Genetically Modified Foods," keynote address by Robert Paarlberg, associate at Harvard University's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, University Center Theater (located on the third floor). Includes commentary by William Harrop, director of the American Academy of Diplomacy.

Monday, Nov. 20

9 a.m. - "You Are What You Eat: Genetically Modified Foods in Local and Asian Perspectives," panel discussion, UM Turner Hall Dell Brown Room. Panelists are Jon Tester, state legislator from Big Sandy and an organic wheat farmer; Robert Paarlberg; Sarah Halvorson, UM department of Geography; and Luther Tarbet, a wheat geneticist from Montana State University. Moderated by Neva Hassanein of the UM Environmental Studies Program.

Noon - "Montana Foreign Policy Forum and Light Luncheon: Whatever Happened to American Diplomacy" by William Harrop, Turner Hall Dell Brown Room. (This World Affairs Council of Montana event is separate from the Mansfield Conference but listed as part of the ongoing collaboration between the council and the Mansfield Center.)

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2 p.m. - "Hungry in Montana: Food Insecurity in Our Backyard," panel discussion, Turner Hall Dell Brown Room. Panelists include UM sociology Professor Paul Miller; Peggy Grimes, Montana Food Bank Network executive director; and Frances Moore Lappe. Other panelists to be announced.

7:30 p.m. - "Diet for a Smaller Planet: Nutrition, Agriculture and Biotechnology - What We've Learned in 30 Years," keynote address by Frances Moore Lappe, author of "Diet for a Small Planet" and "World Hunger: Twelve Myths," University Center Theater.

Tuesday, Nov. 21

9 a.m. - "Crossing Tomatoes and Trout: The Ethics of Playing God," panel discussion, Turner Hall Dell Brown Room. Panelists include UM geneticist Elizabeth Putman; Josh Slotnick, co-founder of Garden City Harvest and owner of Clark Fork Organics; and Deborah Slicer, a philosophy professor with UM's Environmental Studies Program. Additional panelists will be announced. The moderator will be Liz Rantz, medical director of the Missoula County Detention Center and president of the Poverello Center Board of Directors.

7 p.m. - "An Evening With the Lily Cai Chinese Dance Ensemble," University Theatre, tickets \$5 and free to children under age 15, available at the door or at all TIC-IT-E-Z locations. All proceeds benefit the Missoula Food Bank and Garden City Harvest.

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